

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

MARVEL

1

LGY#965

KELLY
LARRAZ
ROMITA JR.
HANNA
GRACIA
MENYZ



RATED T

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

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RATED T



I'VE BEEN **EXCITED** TO SPEAK WITH YOU, MISTER PARKER. ON PAPER, YOU'RE AN **IDEAL** CANDIDATE.

HOPEFULLY IN **REAL LIFE** TOO.

HA! HOPEFULLY.

BULMATECH'S RECENT WORK HAS BEEN NOTHING SHORT OF **GROUNDBREAKING**, AND I'D LOVE TO BE A PART OF--

FOR SOMEONE SO **YOUNG**, YOU'VE LIVED A HELL OF A LIFE.



HEH. YES, I'VE BEEN VERY **LUCKY**, SIR.

"**LUCKY**" IS ONE WAY TO SPIN IT.

ORPHANED, ADOPTED, TOP MARKS THROUGH YOUR MASTER'S AT E.S.U....

BUT YOUR DOCTORATE WAS WITHDRAWN BECAUSE YOU **PLAGIARIZED** THE WORK OF ANOTHER SCIENTIST--

WELL, NO, I MEAN-- I CAN EXPLAIN THAT--

AND THE METEORIC **RISE AND FALL** OF PARKER INDUSTRIES WAS NOTHING SHORT OF **CRIMINAL**...

UH, THAT... ARE WE GOING TO DISCUSS THE **JOB**?

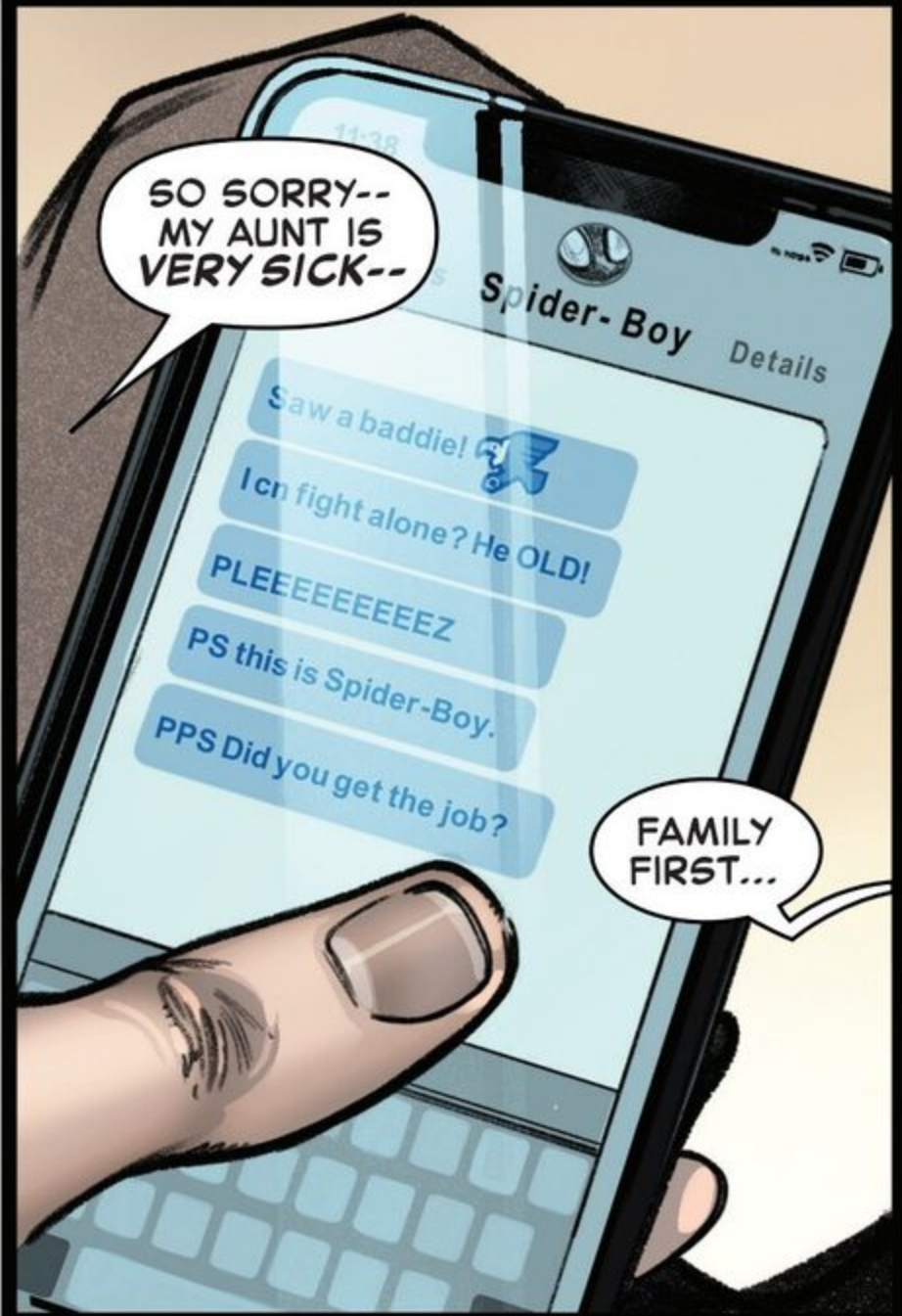
THE "**JOB**" IS ME CALLING YOU A **##\$%&** TO YOUR FACE! I LOST **MILLIONS**, YOU **##\$%&!**

THIS COULD HAVE BEEN AN **EMAIL--**

##\$%& MILLIONS!







LATER...
QUEENS,
NY.

FIFTEEN
DISASTROUS
INTERVIEWS
IN NINE
DAYS.

THAT
FAMOUS
PARKER LUCK
IS IN FULL
EFFECT. RUINING
LIVES SINCE
1842...

I FEEL
LUCKY.

I GET
SOME EXTRA
TIME WITH
YOU.

FRINGE
BENEFITS TO
BEING UNEMPLOYED,
AUNT MAY. I GET
TO **HANG** WITH
MY FAVORITE
LADY.

OUCH...
BUT ALSO
FAIR.

WITH CLEVER
WORDPLAY LIKE
THAT, I CAN'T IMAGINE
WHY YOU'VE BEEN
BOMBING.

STAY FOR
DINNER? THE
F.E.A.S.T. VOLUNTEERS ARE
COMING OVER FOR RIESLING,
TORTELLINI, AND THE **REAL**
HOUSEHUSBANDS OF
NOVA SCOTIA.

ALL THREE OF
THOSE SOUND
MADE-UP.

~SIGH~ HOW
DID WE RAISE SUCH
AN **UNCULTURED**
SWINE?

IF TORTELLINI
IS JUST **FANCY**
STUFFED PASTA,
I'M IN.

WONDERFUL.
THERE'S SOMEONE
I WANT YOU TO
MEET--

HOLD THAT
THOUGHT...

BRDEEET
BRDEEET





MAYBE...?

YES.

YES!

HELLO?
HI... NO.

SORRY FOR YELLING...
YES. THANK YOU.

HOW DOES
SUPERVISING
ENGINEER OF
COOPERATIVE
DISCIPLINES AT RAND
ENTERPRISES
SOUND?

IT
SOUNDS
MADE-UP!
HA!

YOU WERE
SAYING ABOUT
THE "PARKER
LUCK"?

ACTUALLY, THIS WAS LUCK...JUST...
THE GOOD KIND.

THE RECRUITER
SAID AN *INTERNAL*
RECOMMENDATION
PUT ME OVER
THE TOP.

YOU HAVE A
REPUTATION FOR
HARD WORK.

LOVE
THAT YOU *THINK*
THAT--BUT NO.

REMEMBER
BRIAN NEHRING
FROM MIDDLE
SCHOOL?

YES.
I. DO.



WHO GIVES A BUNCH OF GENIUS SIXTH GRADERS ACCESS TO THE **CHEMICAL CLOSET**?

DID HE THOUGH?

HISTORY AND A LOCK I COULD PICK WITH THE GUTS OF A MECHANICAL PENCIL SAY YES.

AND THE **NEHRING-BOMB** WAS BORN.

IT TOOK A **WEEK** TO AIR OUT THE SCHOOL.

IT WAS A **MONTH!**

BECAUSE YOU HID A **SECOND, TIME-DELAYED STINKER** IN THE AC DUCTS! **DIABOLICAL!**

AND LOOK AT US NOW. **VANGUARDS** OF SCIENCE, SAVING THE WORLD.

YOU'RE GONNA LOVE IT HERE, PARKER. THIS PLACE IS THE REAL DEAL.

ALL THE **MAD SCIENCE** WITH AN EXTREMELY HEALTHY DOSE OF **SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.**

I CAN'T WAIT, BUT I HAVE TO KNOW...

IT'S BEEN ALMOST **FIFTEEN YEARS**, BRIAN. NO ONE'S FAULT, THAT'S LIFE, BUT...

WHY DID YOU **VOUCH** FOR ME?

OUCH.

YOU REALLY DON'T REMEMBER? COME ON...

THINK THEY'LL KNOW I WAS IN A FIGHT?

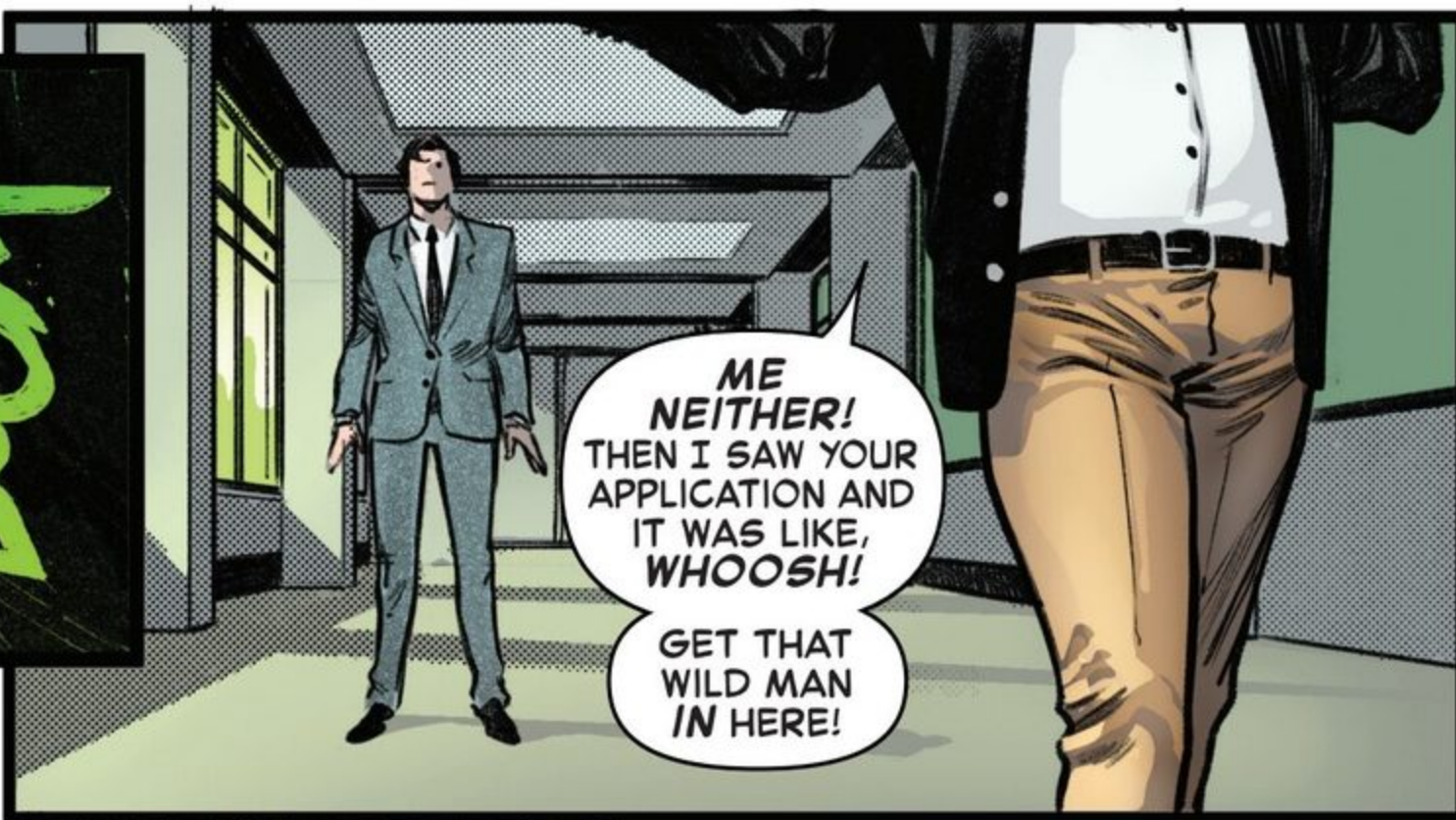
YOU'RE **CRAZY**, MAN!

HELL YEAH I AM.

FREAKTASTIC FOUR FOREVER.

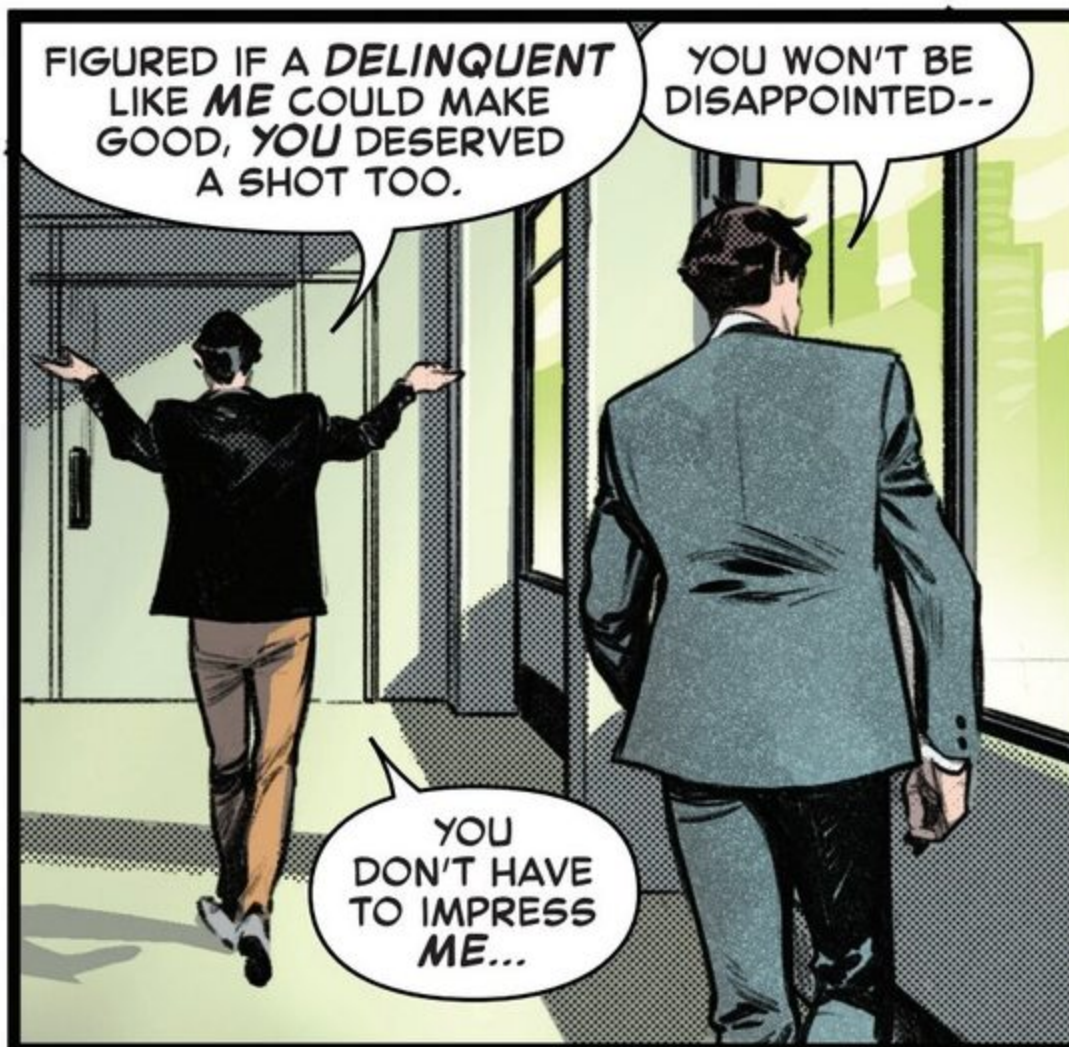


WOW. HAVEN'T
THOUGHT OF
THAT IN...



ME
NEITHER!
THEN I SAW YOUR
APPLICATION AND
IT WAS LIKE,
WHOOSH!

GET THAT
WILD MAN
IN HERE!



FIGURED IF A *DELINQUENT*
LIKE *ME* COULD MAKE
GOOD, YOU DESERVED
A SHOT TOO.

YOU WON'T BE
DISAPPOINTED--

YOU
DON'T HAVE
TO IMPRESS
ME...



...TURN IT ON
FOR THE *BIG*
BOSS.

YOU
HAVE TO
BE KIDDING
ME.



DOC! NEW GUY'S
HERE. GO *EASY* ON
HIM, OKAY? PETER,
MEET--



UH...
NEVER
MIND...?

ARE YOU
SERIOUSLY
WASTING TIME
MESSING AROUND,
NEHRING? AFTER
THAT *LAST*
REVIEW?

I...
AM SLOW
TO LEARN,
MA'AM.



I REALLY
WANTED
THAT JOB.

THOOM

IF SOMEONE
WAS HOLDING A
POSITRON CANNON
TO MY HEAD, I THINK I
COULD LIST OFF YOUR
MOST ADMIRABLE
QUALITIES...

...STRENGTH...

...SPEED...

...MAKES
SLATE GRAY
WORK IN ALL FOUR
SEASONS...

IMPECCABLE
TIMING WILL
NOT BE ON THE
LIST, RHINO!

HR
RR
RR
RAGH!



"HRARGH" YOURSELF, ALEKSEI!

FIGHTING YOU WAS NOT ON MY BINGO CARD TODAY!

KRAK



SOMETHING IS WRONG...

...ASIDE FROM THE OBVIOUS *DERAILMENT* OF WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN A *REALLY, REALLY* COOL JOB.



THE RHINO'S BEEN RELATIVELY *CHILL* FOR A BIT.

MUSCLE FOR HIRE, SURE, BUT A BADDIE YOU CAN TALK TO. THIS IS NEW.



SPIDER-MAN! TH-THANK YOU...

NO PROBS...

HEY, DO YOU HAVE ANY EMOTIONAL ATTACHMENT TO THIS TRUCK?

AFTER TWENTY YEARS...? 'COURSE!

OH, COOL.

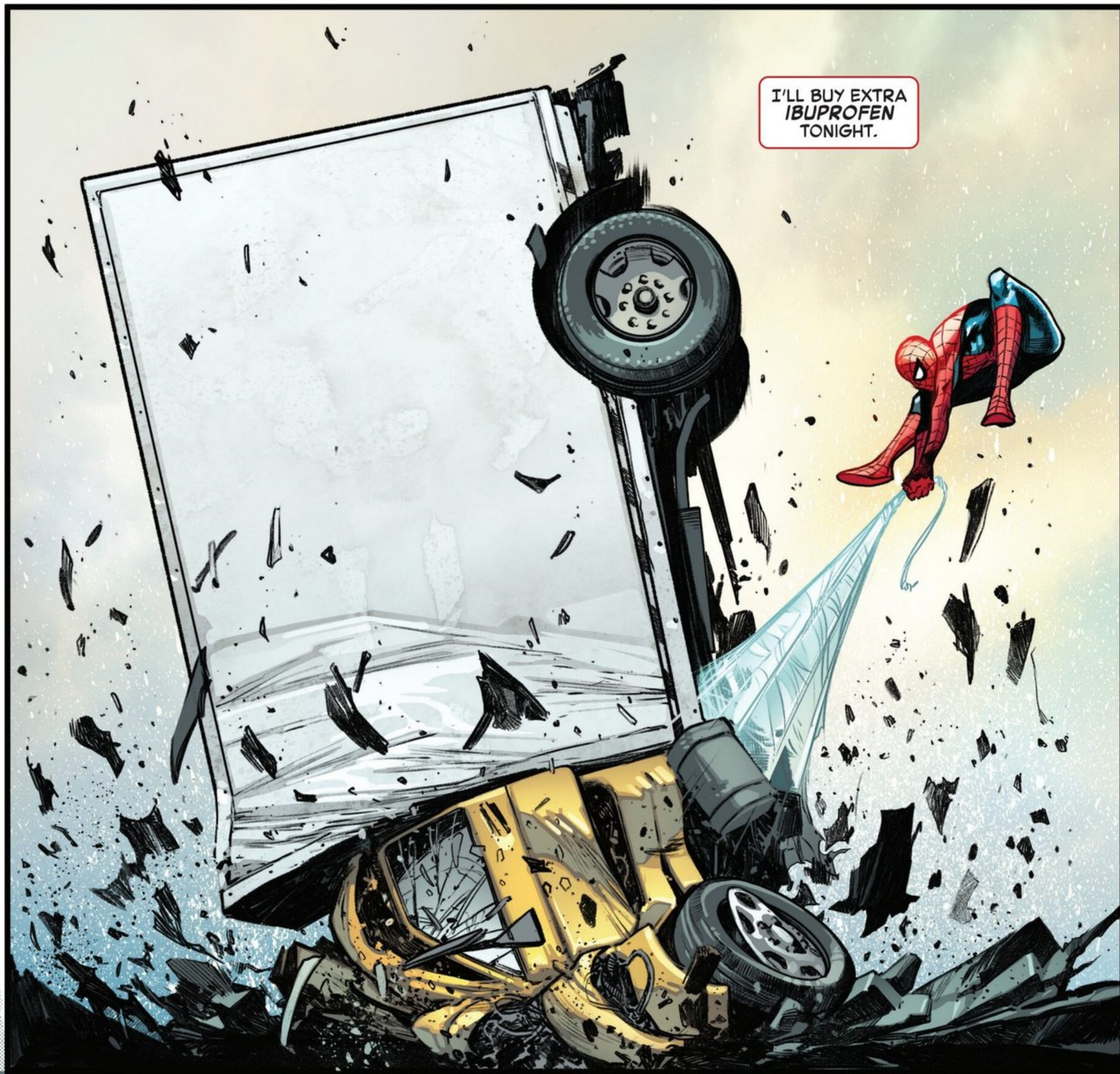


THEN
I'M SORRY
FOR YOUR
LOSS.

THIS IS
GOING TO
HURT.

TOP END OF
MY SPIDER-
STRENGTH.

BUT IT'S PARTIAL
SHOULDER
DISLOCATION OR A
RAMPAGING RHINO.



I'LL BUY EXTRA
IBUPROFEN
TONIGHT.



ARE WE
READY TO
TALK?

'CAUSE
THERE'S A
DOUBLE-DECKER
RIGHT OVER
THERE.



HNNGH!

RAAARGH!!



GIMME A HINT!
WHAT'S THE
PROBLEM?

THE HORN
MOISTURIZER
YOU LIKE IS
ON SALE?

HOT
SNEAKER DROP
SIZE SEVENTY-
TWO'S?

DAZZLER
TICKETS--?



HURRRT!



DOOM!



ALEKSEI?



...
OH MY
GOD.



ONE...
TWO...
THREE...
FOUR...

THERE IS A STRANGE
THING THAT HAPPENS
SOMETIMES...

LASER HEAT RAYS
MILLIMETERS
FROM MY FACE?
NO PRESSURE.

FALLING FROM
40,000 FEET
WITHOUT A 'CHUTE?
SURE, IT'S MONDAY...



ONE...
TWO...
THREE...
FOUR...

BUT WHEN I
CAN'T FIND
A PULSE...?

PANIC SCRAPES
AT EVERY MOLECULE
IN MY BODY.



CPR'S LIKE TRYING
TO KNEAD A BLOCK
OF CONCRETE.

AND MY ARMS
ARE ALREADY
KILLING ME.

HANDS ARE
SWEATING.



HEART
POUNDING IN
MY EARS...

...BUT NOT THE
HEARTBEAT I
WANT TO HEAR.



KINGSLEY TOWER.
Corporate home to Kingsley Unlimited.

THE ARTICLE CONTINUES, "SYTSEVICH SURVIVED THANKS TO THE INTERVENTION OF SPIDER-MAN, AND IS EXPECTED TO MAKE A FULL RECOVERY..."

"...BEGGING THE QUESTION, SHOULD NEW YORK SPEND VALUABLE RESOURCES ON MEDICAL CARE FOR THE RHINO?"

DO WE KNOW WHERE HE'S BEING HELD?

RAVENCROFT. I'VE ALREADY INTERCEPTED THE BLOOD WORK.

DON'T KEEP ME IN SUSPENSE.

THE MARKERS ARE PRESENT. HE'S A CUSTOMER. DISTRICT ELEVEN.

ONE WOULD EXPECT SOMEONE OF HIS... SKILL SET TO LIVE IN A BETTER PART OF TOWN.

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER NEXT TIME WE NEED BIG DUMB MUSCLE WITH A SWEET TOOTH.

MONITOR. INTERVENE ONLY IF THE COMPOUNDS ARE IN DANGER OF DISCOVERY.



HIT THE WINDOWS
ON YOUR WAY OUT,
WOULD YOU,
SIMON?

AS PLEASES,
MR. KINGSLEY.
SEE YOU
TOMORROW.



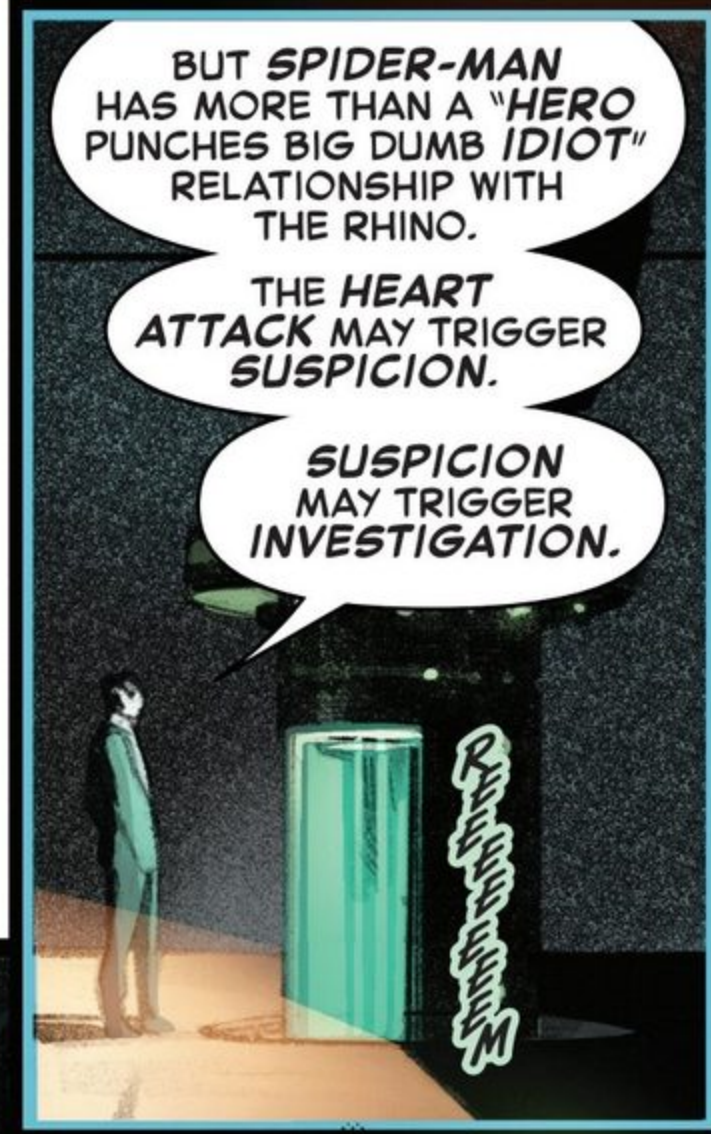
SPEAK FREELY.
HE'S GONE.

YOU'RE
CONCERNED.

THE RHINO HAS
NO CLUE WHAT
HE DID TO HIS OWN
BODY, AND THE STAFF
AT RAVENCROFT
AREN'T WINNING ANY
NOBEL PRIZES IN
BIOCHEMICAL
SCIENCE.

I'M
CLEAR
THERE.

BOEET
DEET



BUT SPIDER-MAN
HAS MORE THAN A "HERO
PUNCHES BIG DUMB IDIOT"
RELATIONSHIP WITH
THE RHINO.

THE HEART
ATTACK MAY TRIGGER
SUSPICION.

SUSPICION
MAY TRIGGER
INVESTIGATION.

RUFFLE
THEM



WILL IT BE A
PROBLEM IF I
ADD HIM TO YOUR
TO-DO LIST?

...

THAT'S AN
UNSETTLING
PAUSE.



SORRY.
QUICK SELF-
CHECK.

I PROMISED
I'D NEVER
LIE TO YOU.



I'LL GIVE HIM
THE TREATMENT
HE DESERVES...

...IN A MOST
PROFESSIONAL
MANNER.



OUTSTANDING.

MAKE SURE
YOU DRESS TO
IMPRESS.

I HAVE AN
IMAGE TO
UPHOLD.

**THIS IS
SO FUN!**

I
LOVVVVVVVE
THE CITY.
SO MUCH.

THE WINE
IS MUCH
BETTER.

YEAH, WE LOVVVVVE IT TOO, BRIE.
LET'S MAKE SURE THEY DON'T
KICK US OUT.

YOU'RE FUNNY,
RODDY!

RANDY.

SOCIAL
WORKER.

I SAID
RANDY. YOU'RE
A BAD LISTENER.
HOW ARE YOU A
THERAPIST--?

TO
SWIPING
RIGHT.

CLINK

TO NOT
ACCIDENTALLY
PICKING THE JELLY
BELLY BOOGER
BEAN.

CHEERS,
SHAY.

SO, YOU GOT FIRED ON
YOUR FIRST DAY?

SHOCKINGLY,
NO.

BRIAN TOLD
THE BOSS ABOUT MY
"ULCERATIVE COLITIS"
AND WE ARE TRYING
AGAIN TOMORROW.

FIRST-DAY
DIARRHEA.
BEEN THERE.

I...
NEVER
MIND.

tsrrt



THE GUY'S, LIKE, MY **GUARDIAN ANGEL** BECAUSE WE PULLED SOME **PRANKS** IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

SEND HIM MY WAY, PLEASE. I NEED AN ANGEL.

FULL MOON ISN'T FOR **WEEKS**, BUT MY CASELOAD HAS BEEN **MADNESS**.



CLIENTS I'VE KNOWN FOR **YEARS** ARE SLAMMING DOORS IN MY FACE.

FAMILY PEOPLE. **GOOD** PEOPLE.

NO ONE IN **EAST HARLEM'S** THEMSELVES.

HOME TO A CERTAIN RUSSIAN RHINOCEROS...
Hmmm...



SHAY! YOU TWO ARE NOT BROTHER AND SISTER.

BOYFRIEND AND GIRLFRIEND?

YEAH, I MEAN--

WE'RE NOT EXCLUSIVE.



WE'RE NOT...?

YOU'RE STILL ON PROBATION.



THAT'S... BETTER THAN... IS THAT GOOD?

DEPENDS ON YOU, PARKER.



CHECK! PLEASE, GOD, CHECK...

TO PROBATION.

AMEN, BROTHER.

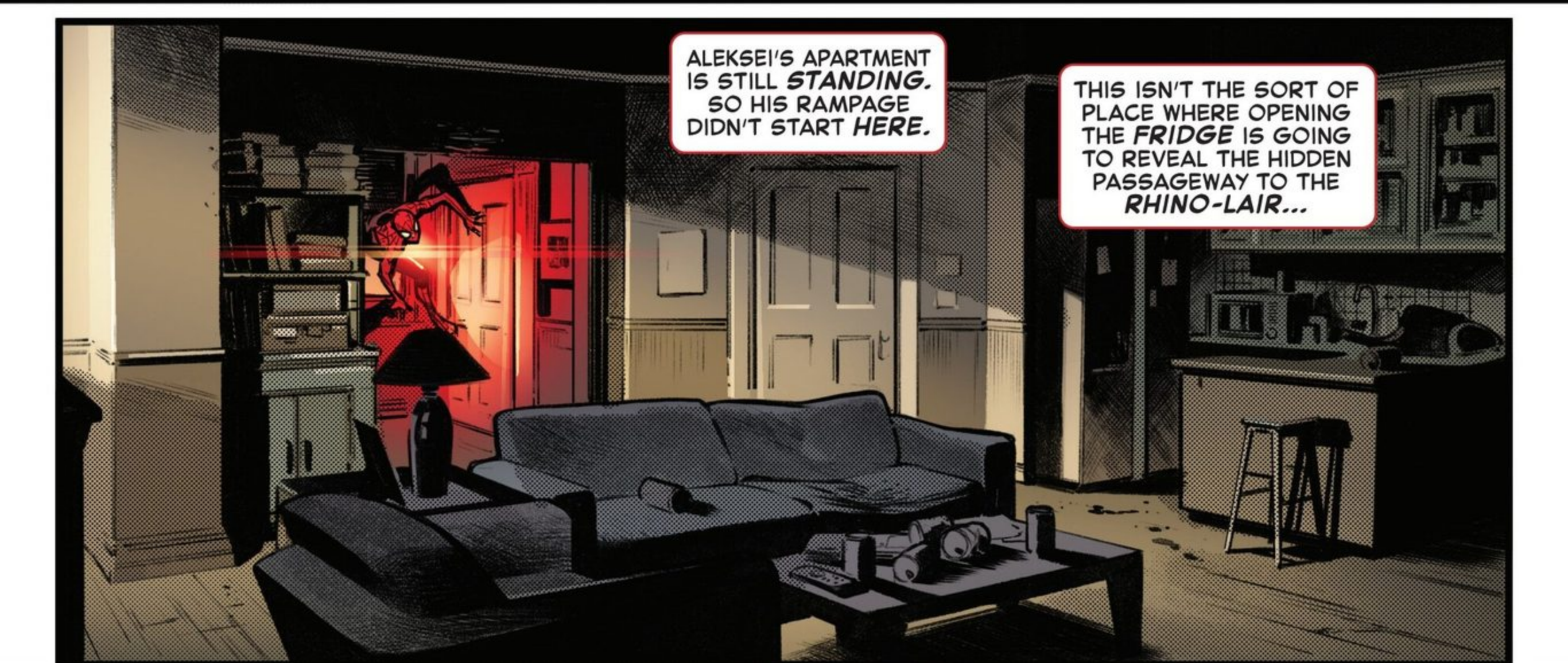


RANDY'S
COINCIDENCE
IS **PROBABLY**
JUST THAT...

CLIENTS IN **EAST
HARLEM** ACTING WEIRD
AROUND THE SAME TIME
A STABLE-ISH GUY
FREAKS OUT...

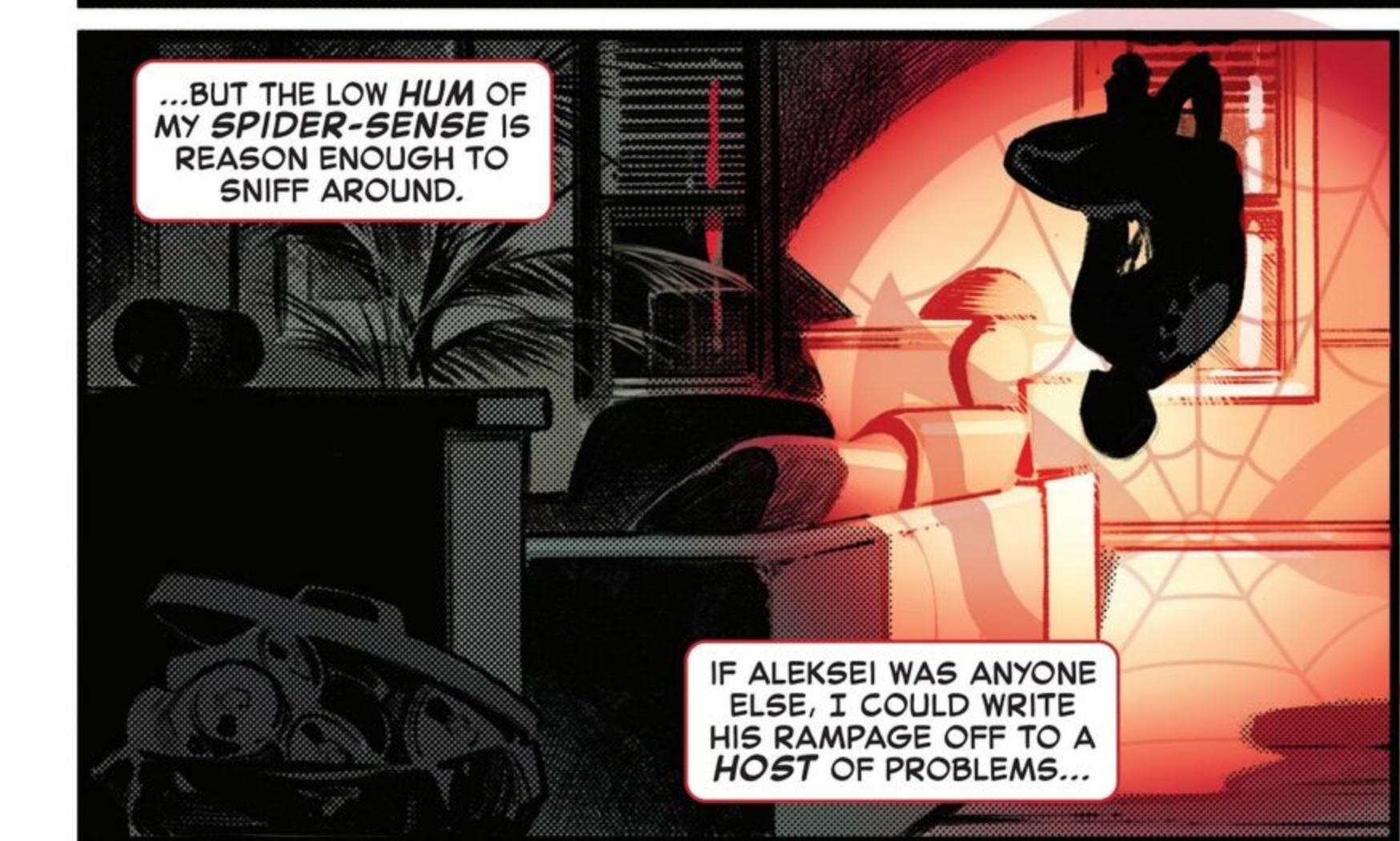
...BUT IT GNAWS
AT MY BRAIN.
WHAT IF IT'S **NOT**
COINCIDENCE?

CAN'T HELP BUT
FEEL LIKE IT'S
WORTH A FRIENDLY
NEIGHBORHOOD
B&E.



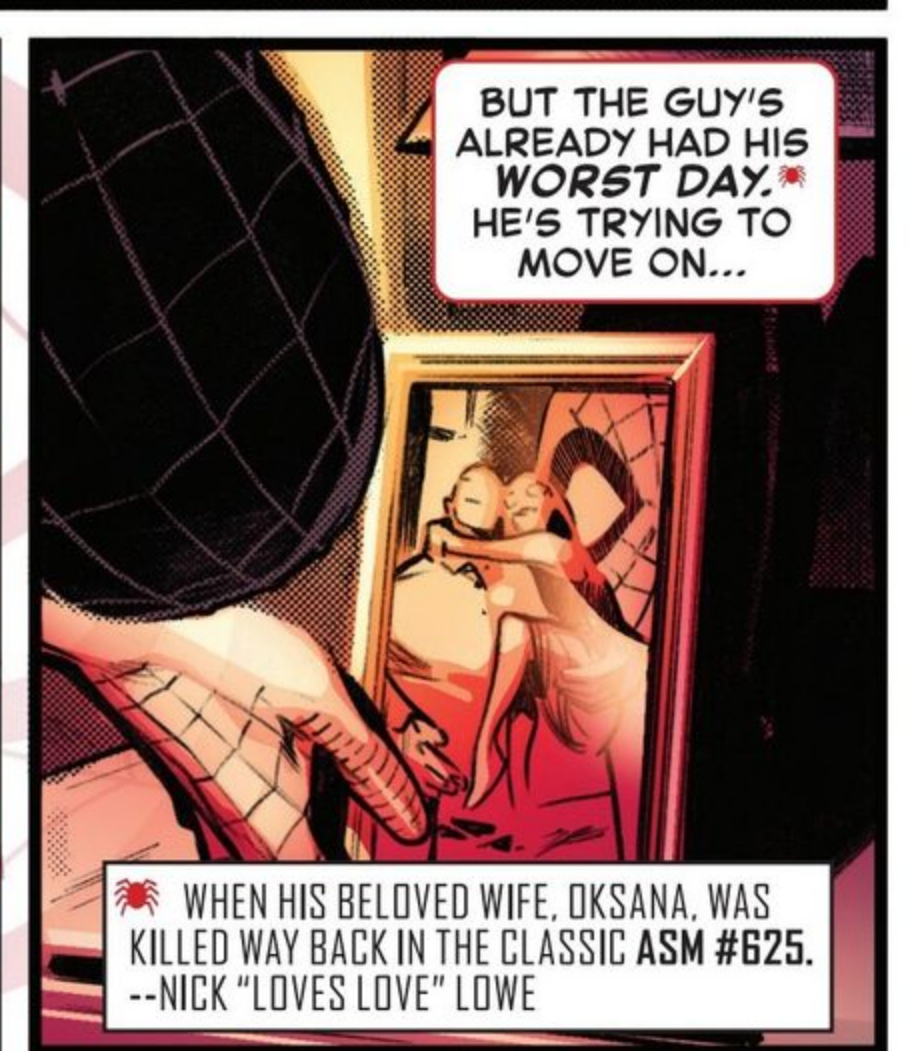
ALEKSEI'S APARTMENT
IS STILL **STANDING**.
SO HIS RAMPAGE
DIDN'T START **HERE**.

THIS ISN'T THE SORT OF
PLACE WHERE OPENING
THE **FRIDGE** IS GOING
TO REVEAL THE HIDDEN
PASSAGEWAY TO THE
RHINO-LAIR...



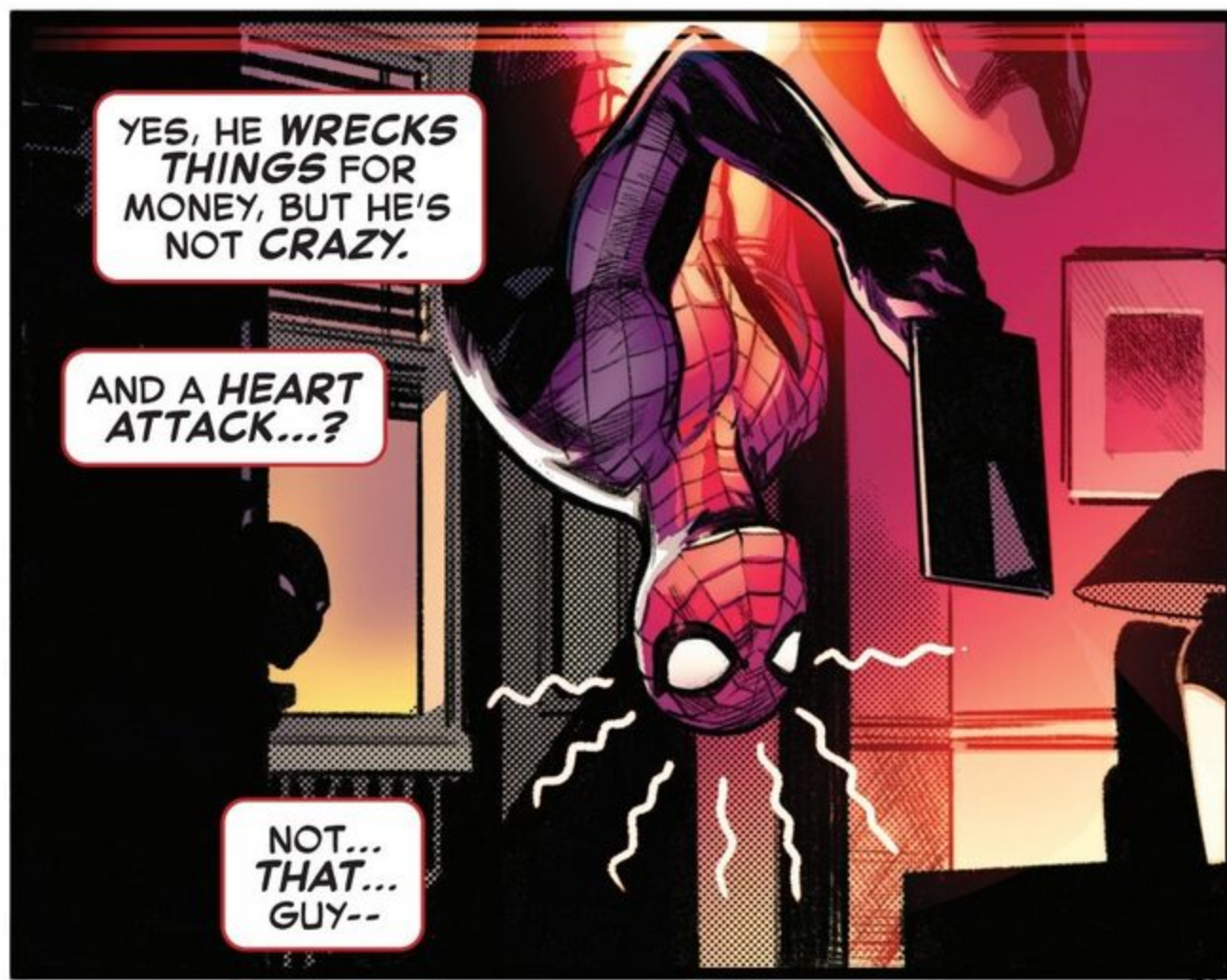
...BUT THE LOW **HUM** OF
MY **SPIDER-SENSE** IS
REASON ENOUGH TO
SNIFF AROUND.

IF ALEKSEI WAS ANYONE
ELSE, I COULD WRITE
HIS RAMPAGE OFF TO A
HOST OF PROBLEMS...



BUT THE GUY'S
ALREADY HAD HIS
WORST DAY.
HE'S TRYING TO
MOVE ON...

 WHEN HIS BELOVED WIFE, OKSANA, WAS
KILLED WAY BACK IN THE CLASSIC ASM #625.
--NICK "LOVES LOVE" LOWE





HEART.



PETER PARKER HAS THE PROPORTIONAL SPEED, STRENGTH, AND AGILITY OF A SPIDER, ADHESIVE FINGERTIPS AND TOES, AND THE UNIQUE PRECOGNITIVE AWARENESS OF DANGER CALLED "SPIDER-SENSE"! AFTER THE TRAGIC DEATH OF HIS UNCLE BEN, PETER PARKER UNDERSTOOD THAT WITH GREAT POWER THERE MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. HE BECAME THE CRIMEFIGHTING SUPER HERO CALLED...



the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



PETER PARKER



MAY PARKER



SHAY MARKEN



RANDY ROBERTSON



ALEKSEI SYTSEVICH
THE RHINO

Writer:

JOE KELLY

Color Artist:

MARTE GRACIA

Designer:

JAY BOWEN

Editor:

NICK LOWE

Artist:

PEPE LARRAZ

Letterer:

VC's **JOE CARAMAGNA**

Assistant Editor:

KAITLYN LINDTVEDT

Editor in Chief:

C.B. CEBULSKI

Cover Artists:

PEPE LARRAZ & MARTE GRACIA

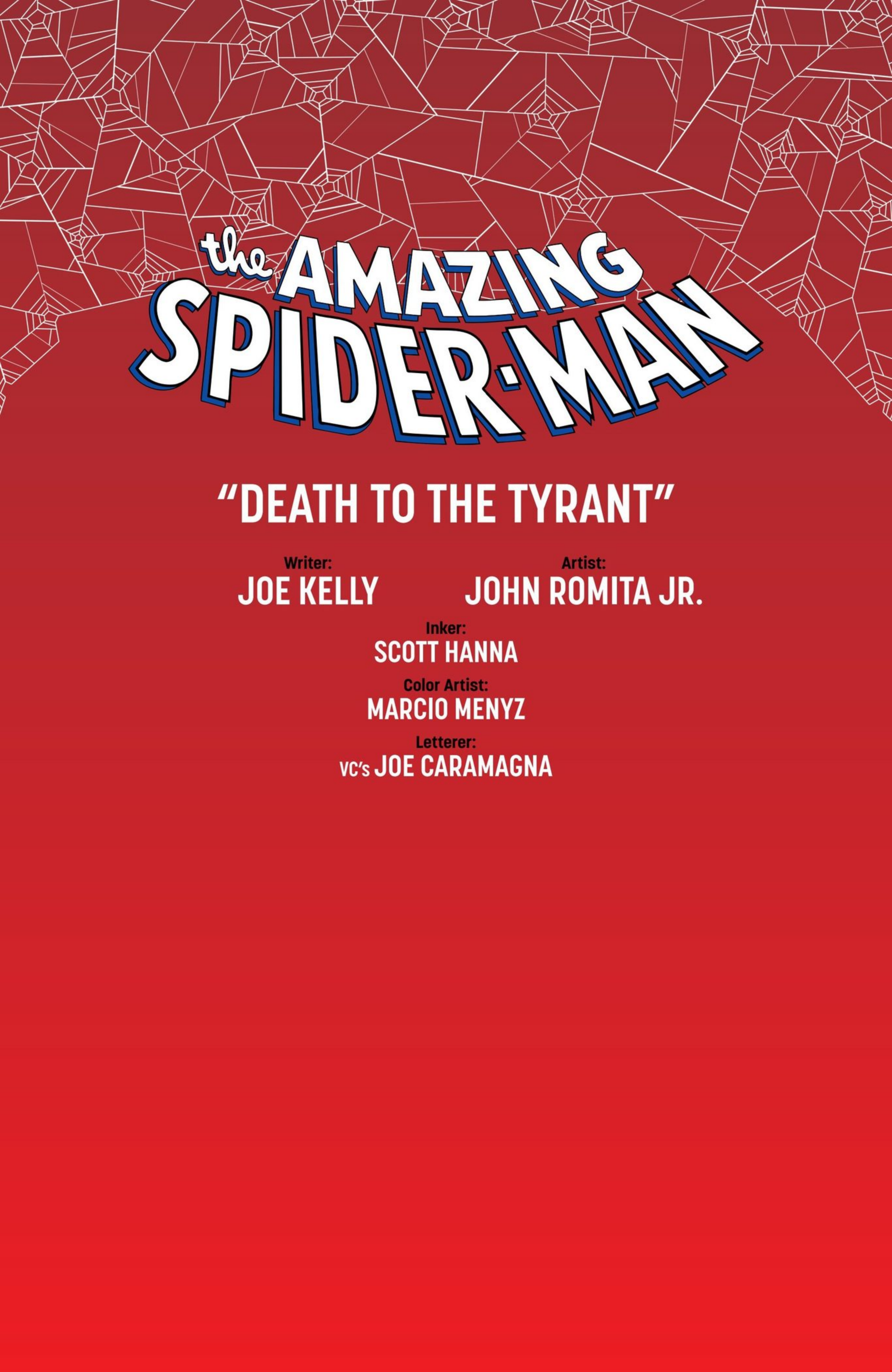
Associate Editor:

TOM GRONEMAN

SPIDER-MAN created by
STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO

Variant Cover Artists:

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GREG LAND & RACHELLE ROSENBERG; LEE BERMEJO; MARK CHIARELLO;
RYAN STEGMAN & FRANK MARTIN; DAVID MARQUEZ & JESUS ABURTOV;
NIMIT MALAVIA; SIMONE DI MEO



the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

"DEATH TO THE TYRANT"

Writer:

JOE KELLY

Artist:

JOHN ROMITA JR.

Inker:

SCOTT HANNA

Color Artist:

MARCIO MENYZ

Letterer:

VC's JOE CARAMAGNA

SHAREHOLDERS,
MEMBERS OF THE
BOARD, AND, OF
COURSE, THE
PRESS...

OSCORP

...THANK YOU
ALL FOR COMING
ON SUCH SHORT
NOTICE.

CONTRARY TO POPULAR
OPINION, I DO NOT LIKE
THE SOUND OF MY OWN
VOICE...

...ESPECIALLY
NOT MY
LAUGH.



NOT
THE ARENA
FOR LEVITY...
NOTED.

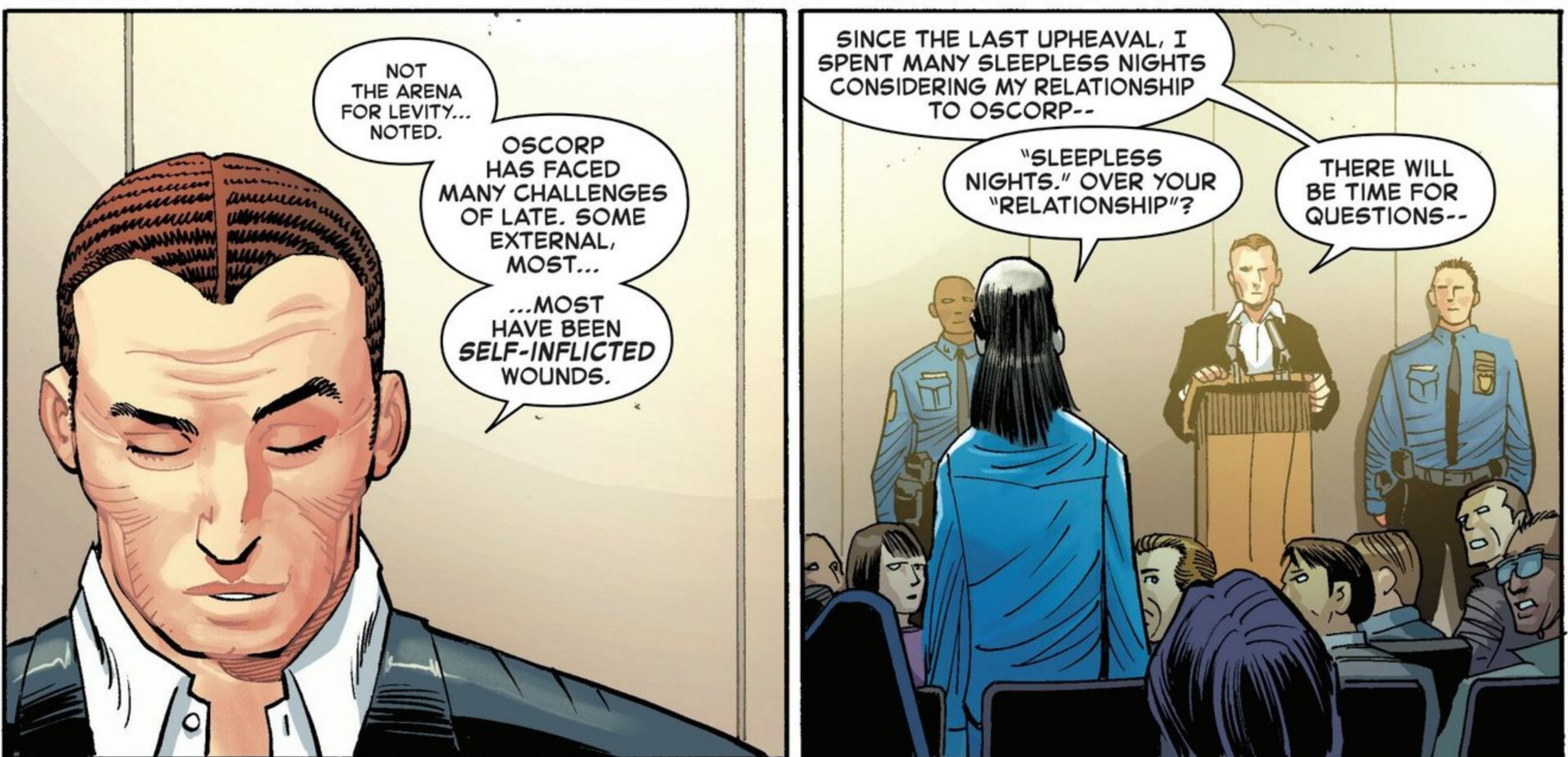
OSCORP
HAS FACED
MANY CHALLENGES
OF LATE. SOME
EXTERNAL,
MOST...

...MOST
HAVE BEEN
SELF-INFLICTED
WOUNDS.

SINCE THE LAST UPHEAVAL, I
SPENT MANY SLEEPLESS NIGHTS
CONSIDERING MY RELATIONSHIP
TO OSCORP--

"SLEEPLESS
NIGHTS." OVER YOUR
"RELATIONSHIP"?

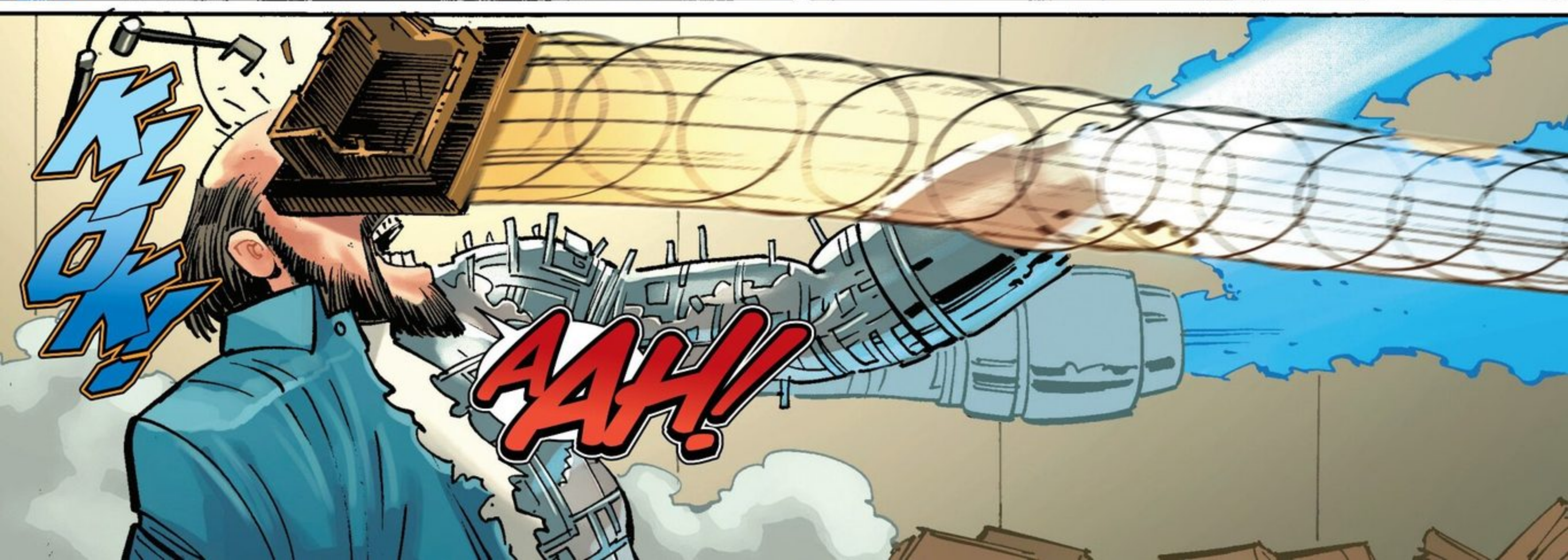
THERE WILL
BE TIME FOR
QUESTIONS--







**DOWN!
DOWN!**





HER NAME WAS SANDRA!



HER NAME WAS-- WHOULFF!



YOU DARE ATTACK ME...



...IN MY HOUSE...!

SKRITCHHH



MY HOUSE?!

"BEFORE YOU GO ANY FURTHER..."



...THERE ARE A BUNCH OF PEOPLE WHO WANT TO SEE YOU PAY FOR THE PAST, NORMAN.

I SHOULD BE HIGH ON THAT LIST...MAYBE EVEN NUMBER ONE.

FAIR...

BUT PEOPLE **CAN** CHANGE WHEN THEY GIVE THEMSELVES THE SPACE TO BELIEVE CHANGE IS POSSIBLE.



YOUR MIND IS CLEAR--**FREE** FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE YOU BECAME THE **GOBLIN**.

MAYBE THE FIRST TIME EVER.

IS QUITTING THE BEST YOU CAN COME UP WITH?



...
I WAS GOING TO **RESIGN** TODAY.

SHUT THE DOOR ON MY PAST AND LIVE OUT MY DAYS IN OBSCURITY.

NO...

GET THIS MAN THE ATTENTION HE REQUIRES!

IS ANYONE ELSE HURT--?

MR. OSBORN!
MR. OSBORN!

WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF THIS PRESS CONFERENCE?!

WAS THIS JUST A STUNT?!

BUT A FRIEND RECENTLY REMINDED ME THAT THOSE WHO HAVE **ABUSED** GREAT POWER, IF GIVEN THE CHANCE...

...**HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY** TO MAKE AMENDS.

I DON'T KNOW HOW...BUT LET THIS SERVE AS MY PLEDGE TO THOSE WHO I HAVE HARMED.

I WILL **ATONE** FOR THE SINS OF MY PAST WITH EVERY TOOL AT MY DISPOSAL. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY...

...THIS IS THE **ONLY MISSION** OF OSCORP.



THE SPIDER'S WEB



ASSISTANT EDITOR: KAITLYN LINDTVEDT
ASSOCIATE EDITOR: TOM GRONEMAN
EDITOR: NICK LOWE

HEY THERE, WEB-HEADS!!!

Spider-Editor Nick Lowe here to welcome you to the newest volume of the best comic book of all time, **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!** We do not take these issues lightly, and I hope what you just read **PROVES** that. Every comic has a story, and this comic's story puts a big smile on my face.

It's the Editor's job to put a comic together, and the casting process is both super fun and exciting but also **FULL** of pressure. You want to put the best teams together to tell the best story. So every comic you cast twists you up inside, and casting **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** is that times ten. When I hired Nick Spencer, I was nervous because we hadn't worked together before, but a great conversation we had at the Chicago comic convention C2E2 set my mind at ease. He picked right up from Dan Slott's epic run (which Stephen Wacker hired HIM for), and that transition was **INTENSE**. So when Nick wrapped up his run, we built a transitional story that several writers collaborated on between solo-writer runs, and I liked having that palate cleanser. So when Zeb Wells told me he wanted to end his run, I wanted to do that again. I talked to **JOE KELLY**, and that conversation turned into the "8 Deaths of Spider-Man." Early in the process, while we were still putting together our thoughts on the post "8 Deaths" run, Joe asked me if I'd considered him to take over the book full-time. To be honest, I hadn't. Joe is a busy guy writing animation, television, and movies, and for the past decade or so, he hadn't taken on an ongoing series and **ASM** is like three ongoing series. I love Joe's writing but didn't think we lived in that world. So when he put it out there, it was a moment one knows to **JUMP** at and I jumped.

In the meantime, alongside this process, **PEPE LARRAZ** was working on **BLOOD HUNT** and asked about what was next and expressed interest in Spider-Man. Snagging Pepe took zero thought as he is not only a great collaborator but one of the best artists in the world of any medium and at the top of his powers. I'd first worked with Pepe on **WOLVERINE AND THE X-MEN** many years ago, and since then, he continued his trajectory into the stratosphere with **HOUSE OF X** and **X-MEN**. And Pepe has disappointed me zero times here as he races to the finish with issue **#4** as we speak.

One artist can't do all 24 issues of **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** per year, and we needed someone to keep up with Pepe. So why not just keep one of the greatest comic artists of all time who was already on **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN**? Again, it took zero minutes of thought, and I begged **JOHN ROMITA JR.** to join us on this glorious web of dreams, and Johnny signed on. Where Johnny goes on Spider-Man, inker **SCOTT HANNA** follows, and the creative relationship they forged with colorist **MARCIO MENYZ** needed to continue! Scott and Marcio are so darn good as you saw on this issue's second story. You'll see them next month in our **FREE COMIC BOOK DAY** offering, and then they'll be back with issue **#6**!

As for issues **#2-5**, **MARTE GRACIA** is returning to **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** (he colored most of volume 4 for us) to color Pepe, and Marte has somehow gotten better. I wasn't sure that was possible, but Marte found a way, and we were so happy to have him back.

JOE CARAMAGNA tried to get away, but the invisible fence collar I put on him did the job, and he's sticking to the Lettering Desk on **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** until the end of time!!!

So Assistant Editor **KAITLYN LINDTVEDT**, Associate Editor **TOM GRONEMAN** and I get the envious job of basking in these creators' glow and are so excited to bring you on this journey of Spider-Insanity. It's going to be quite a journey. Before we get to other business, Joe and Pepe wanted to say some words of their own! Take it away, Joyous Joe!

Dear Web-Heads,

I have started this letter no less than two dozen times and chucked every opener. *That one feels too grand. That's not humble enough. You're gonna start with THAT joke?* So, after a long walk around the proverbial block, I finally settled into the place I feel most comfortable: heart-on-the-sleeve honesty.

When my son was in preschool, I thought it would be cool to have his favorite super hero, the Amazing Spider-Man, make an appearance at his birthday party. So I rented a costume. I didn't have the muscles to fill it out, but I was lanky enough that I thought I could pull it off. But a funny thing happened when I pulled those red-and-blues out of the bag--I was hit with an overwhelming sense that once I put the costume on...I might never want to take it off.

I was right.

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN is the first comic book I remember reading, and Spider-Man has been my favorite super hero for as long as I can remember. Spidey taught me how to read. He was a constant companion in my imagination, dreams, and drawing pads. As I got older, Peter Parker taught me that everyone feels powerless, frustrated, guilty, and just plain sad sometimes, even when all signs should point toward happiness... And then he taught me how to get the hell up, even when the world has kicked me in the

teeth or stolen the irreplaceable. Writing the ongoing adventures of one of the most influential characters ever conceived is one of the greatest opportunities I've ever been blessed with, and I am delirious with gratitude. This character means the world to me, and if you've slogged all the way through a letter like this, I have a feeling he means the world to you too. So a promise from one Spider-Fan to another...

For as long as they let me sit in this chair, I promise to do my absolute best to tell a story worthy of our hero and all the amazing creators who served us thrills and chills for the last 63 years.

Luckily, I won't have to shoulder the burden alone: Nick, Kaitlyn, and Tom are smart as *heck* and generous with their time, ideas, and honest guidance. Pepe Larraz is a revelation, who has elevated my best efforts into genre-defying pages that have brought literal tears to my eyes. John Romita Jr. is a legend, who brings his mastery of craft to my scripts with the force of one of his characters' sledgehammer punches. Marte impossibly unites their disparate styles into a cohesive whole without losing what makes either one great. As I've said before, it's an embarrassment of riches, and I am grateful for everyone on the team for their talent and passion.

Let's have fun together, all us Web-Heads with our costumes on and our hearts on our red-and-blue sleeves. Let's have fun.

With my deepest thanks,
Joe Kelly
New York, 2025

And now for our pal Pepe!

From my point of view, what you are holding in your hands is an impossible thing. More than that, it is the sum of several impossibilities.

My first contact with American comic books was a couple of pages of SPIDER-MAN that I found in a kid's magazine in Spain. It was Michelinie/ McFarlane, and it blew

my mind. I remember it took me some time to understand comics were done by people (when you are a kid, things are just things, and you don't ask who made them or how they are made--they have been there always, and you just happen to find them), and also that those people who made the comics changed from one series to others, sometimes from one issue to the next. But those comics I was reading were done far away and years ago. The making of American comic books was something so remote that it was almost mythical. It was impossible for me to draw American comic books.

Also, the level of drawing was insane. I devoted myself to copying every brush stroke from McFarlane to the point of imitating the way he framed his signature. It was too detailed, too complicated--the figures were moving in such intricate ways. The anatomy seemed an arcane secret that I needed to learn, and I bought books to study. Then came Erik Larsen and then I discovered Rick Leonardi and then I knew...it was impossible for me to draw like that.

Years passed, and Carlos Pacheco, Salvador Larroca, and Pasqual Ferry opened the gates of America to us, the kids across the Atlantic. Suddenly, a Spaniard could draw American comic books. We followed that path, first a few, then many. But when I got hired and started knowing this industry from the inside, it was only climbing the hill to see the mountain. I realized how far I was from drawing AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. It was the peak, the top. It was impossible for a newbie like me to get to draw AMAZING SPIDER-MAN.

And, well, here we are.

Actually, I'd dare to say I'm more surprised than you are. I am telling you all that so you can understand how crazy drawing this book is for me. I don't feel any more prepared for it than I felt when I read those first two pages. I've enjoyed and suffered in equal measure every page of this book, trying for it to

be the best I could do. Fortunately, Joe Kelly's script is so great, so sensitive, and so fun that it's easier to make a work I can be proud of.

To those things that seemed impossible not so long ago, we could add working with one of the best, proactive editors in the House, Nick Lowe, from who I've learned and keep learning from so much. Or to get to work with one of the writers whose work I enjoyed and admired since I was a teenager, Joe Kelly, or to work along with a member of the royalty of comic books like JRJR. And also to get *mi hermano* Marte Gracia on colors one more time. For all that, I'm really grateful. Also, a huge thanks to my studio companions, especially Kenny Ruiz and Salba Combe, because without their help, this book would be considerably worse.

We tried to make the best Spider-Man book we could. I hope you enjoy it as much as we did.

Pepe Larraz

Aren't they great? You know who ELSE is great? YOU! Here's a letter from one of you to make sure this still gets classified as a letters page.

Hello,

I want to start off by saying thanks for everything that the team(s) at Marvel and the Spidey teams have given to the world, but more so to me with THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. My very first AMAZING SPIDER-MAN comic was way back in '80s with issue #272, "Make Way for Slyde," and, yes, I still own that first issue, and I was able to meet the creative team of it and had them sign it. But when I got issue #272, I was a mere 10 years old, I had been reading things like *Peanuts*, *Garfield*, and *Heathcliff* and thought I was reading some of the best stuff in the world. But then I got that first SPIDER-MAN. There are so many ways I can express how it opened my eyes and mind, but I'll just use one--flabbergasted. At the time, I didn't know what that word meant, don't think I even knew that word, but I was flat-out flabbergasted.

Since that day, I have been reading the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. Not only that, but that one issue opened the world of comic books to me, and over these many years, I went from just getting one or two Marvel books a month to now being able to get the majority of Marvel titles each week. I started collecting comic books from that moment, especially the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, and now my collection is around 16,000 books. By the time I was a teenager, I had many dreams and goals but one that has stuck with me over the years--get every Spider-Man book that has been printed. That goal has changed since then because of all the different variant covers, but it still is a goal with just a small tweak--get every regular cover/issue of Spider-Man. As of today, my collection consists of having about 60% of all Spider-Man titles, but with THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, I am now only 112 issues away from owning every single issue. Not only am I that close to getting the complete run on Amazing, but I also have been a mail-in subscriber for around twenty years where I have not opened any of the subscription issues. Yes, my collective spirit is that strong that I keep the mail-in subs in their bags and still go out to buy them at my comic shops--yep, plural.

After all these years, I will be turning the big 50 in April, and one of the other goals in my life has been to write a letter to THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN to get it printed in one of the issues and, well, to get a No-Prize! The No-Prize I know won't happen, but maybe, hopefully, if you feel magnanimous and print my letter in the April issue of THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN so I can finally achieve that goal and do it on my big birthday month, and if it's the new relaunch of the title for issue #1, I think I would pass out from the joy and the amount of money I spend when I buy every single variant of it so I can be like, yes, that's my letter in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #1. No pressure or anything.

Okay, now a few things I would like to see in the books.

- 1) Make an ongoing title where Peter/Spider-Man is right out of high school and either right before college or during his first year into college. I love adult 20s Peter/Spidey, but I want some stories of him in those younger years before the reality of adulting starts to take over. But not the high school years, because it always seems to be one of the adult or early teen years that gets told. Having something in the middle where he has a bit more experience being Spidey, but as Peter, he is still able to be young enough to have less stress and more fun while also becoming more mature (as much so as Peter can be).
- 2) Give more of the symbiote suit. After all these years of growth, the symbiote has grown, and after VENOM WAR showing that Peter can wear the symbiote without being taken over, I want more. As smart as Peter is and all the super-geniuses he knows, there has to be a way they could come up with that would allow Peter and the symbiote to bond without fully bonding and harming Peter. Well, just a thought I know, but man, I love those two together.
- 3) Keep showing those older, more obscure villains for Spidey to fight. Though Tombstone isn't obscure, having him come back and giving Spidey a hard time was great.

Always page whipping,
Lee Michael Roberts

Lee, I am in AWE. You are a wild man, and I appreciate your devotion and passion. WOW!!! Hope this did the trick for you, and HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!! To answer your questions...
1) KEEP READING, TRUE BELIEVER!!!
2) KEEP READING, TRUE BELIEVER!!!
3) We'll keep doing this too. This volume is bringing back a few

major villains, a more obscure one (the shadowy figure with Kingsley), and several NEW villains. Maybe keep reading even after this page? There may be a surprise.

And with that, we're going to shut this thing down! See you all in two weeks for an EVEN BETTER ISSUE SOMEHOW!!!! Thank you for picking this book up and making our lives possible. We're super grateful!!!

KEEP THWIPPIN'!

Nick Lowe
Spider-Editor
New York, NY



Everyone has their first encounter with our favorite web-slinger--Regular reader Lee Robert's first issue of ASM was AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #272 by Tom DeFalco and Sal Buscema published in January 1986.

What was your first issue of SPIDER-MAN!? Be sure to let us know!

SPIDERS & SYMBIOTES

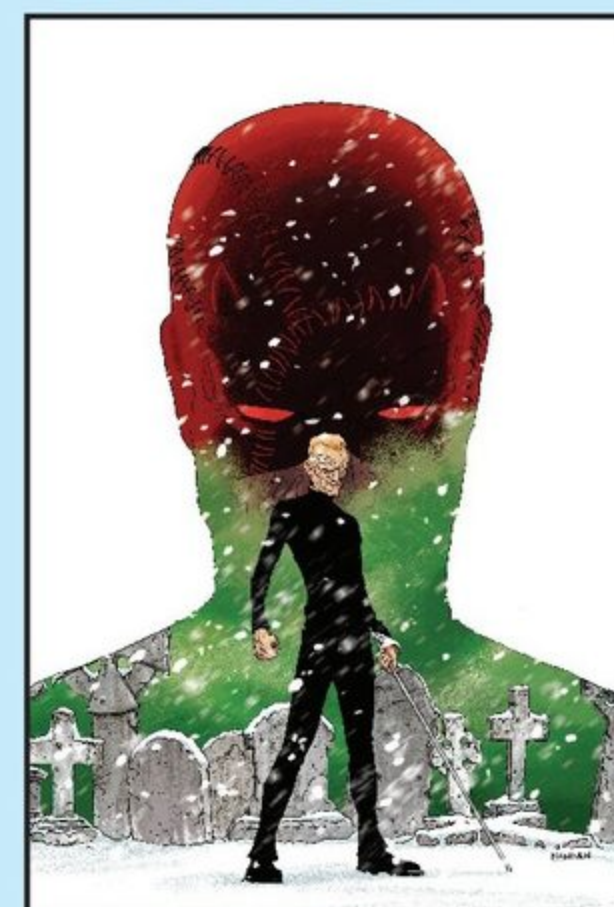
THE LOWE-DOWN



NEED YOUR SPIDER-FIX WHILE YOU WAIT FOR NEXT ISSUE?

THWIP-LIST

- ☐ ALL-NEW VENOM #5
- ☐ DAREDEVIL: COLD DAY IN HELL #1



- ☐ MARVEL RIVALS #1
- ☐ MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #32
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #1
- ☐ SPIDER-BOY #18
- ☐ SPIDER-GWEN: THE GHOST-SPIDER #12
- ☐ GODZILLA VS. HULK #1
- ☐ SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MEN #14
- ☐ WEB OF VENOMVERSE: FRESH BRAINS #1
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #2



- ☐ EDDIE BROCK: CARNAGE #3
- ☐ INFINITY WATCH #4
- ☐ YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN #5
- ☐ DOOM ACADEMY #3
- ☐ GODZILLA VS. SPIDER-MAN #1
- ☐ HELLHUNTERS #5
- ☐ TVA #5



WONDERFUL WEB-HEADS!

WE ARE HERE! It's one of the biggest months in years for the Spider-Office for SEVERAL reasons. We have the biggest issue of Venom comics ever with ALL-NEW VENOM #5 [NO SPOILERS HERE]! We also debut DAREDEVIL: COLD DAY IN HELL, which isn't a Spider-Book but is one I've been editing with STEVE McNIVEN and CHARLES SOULE since 2019!!! This book is INCREDIBLE and destined to be a true GOAT!!! Do not miss it!!! Our Gamma Group has GODZILLA VS. HULK, and the Symbiote Squad

has WEB OF VENOMVERSE. The main event is our big launch of the newest volume of THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, courtesy of JOE KELLY, PEPE LARRAZ & JOHN ROMITA JR.!!! This new volume has some of the most audacious and emotional Spider-Stories ever, and people will be arguing about it for decades! And if you want MORE Joe Kelly, get his GODZILLA VS. SPIDER-MAN one-shot with NICK BRADSHAW--it ROARS!

Keep Thwippin',
Nick Lowe
Spider-Editor

THIS MONTH'S HOST



NAME: Greg Weisman

TITLE: Writer

WORKS ON:
SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MEN

WHO IS YOUR IRL SUPER HERO?

My parents, my siblings, my wife, and my (very grown-up) kids all qualify. But if that's too easy an answer, I'm going to go with the late, great Edward

Asner. Ed was an amazing friend to me through good times and bad. He was incredibly talented, but he also stood up for what he believed in, though it had real consequences to his career.

WHICH SPIDER-MAN VILLAIN DO YOU MOST RESONATE WITH?

Probably Doctor Octopus--especially in his Master Planner mode. Despite being humbled over and over, I still tend to walk through the door with the mistaken belief that I'm too smart for the room. Plus, I like to be in control. Yes. That's right. I'm admitting to being a megalomaniac.

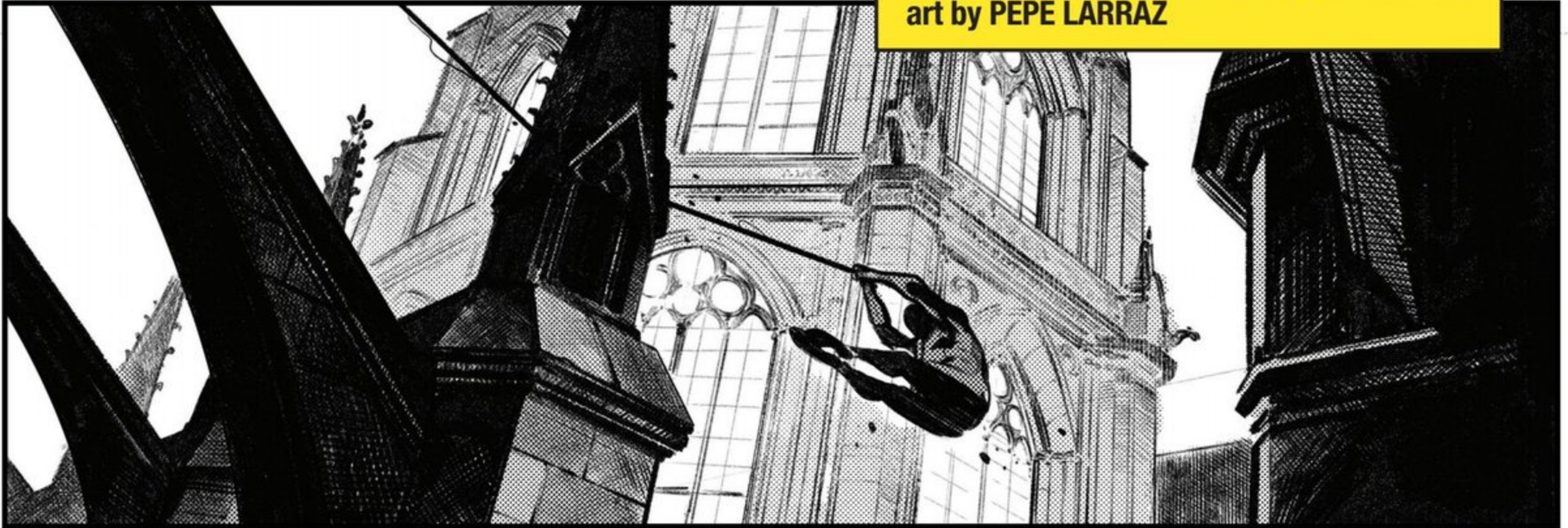
IF YOU COULD GIVE YOUR YOUNGER SELF ONE PIECE OF ADVICE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Write to your passion. If you're not passionate about the work, how can you expect anyone else to be?

EMERALD BENSADOUN, KAITLYN LINDTVEDT & KAEDEN MCGAHEY - Assistant Editors
TOM GRONEMAN - Associate Editor JORDAN D. WHITE - Senior Editor
NICK LOWE - Executive Editor

PANEL OF THE MONTH:

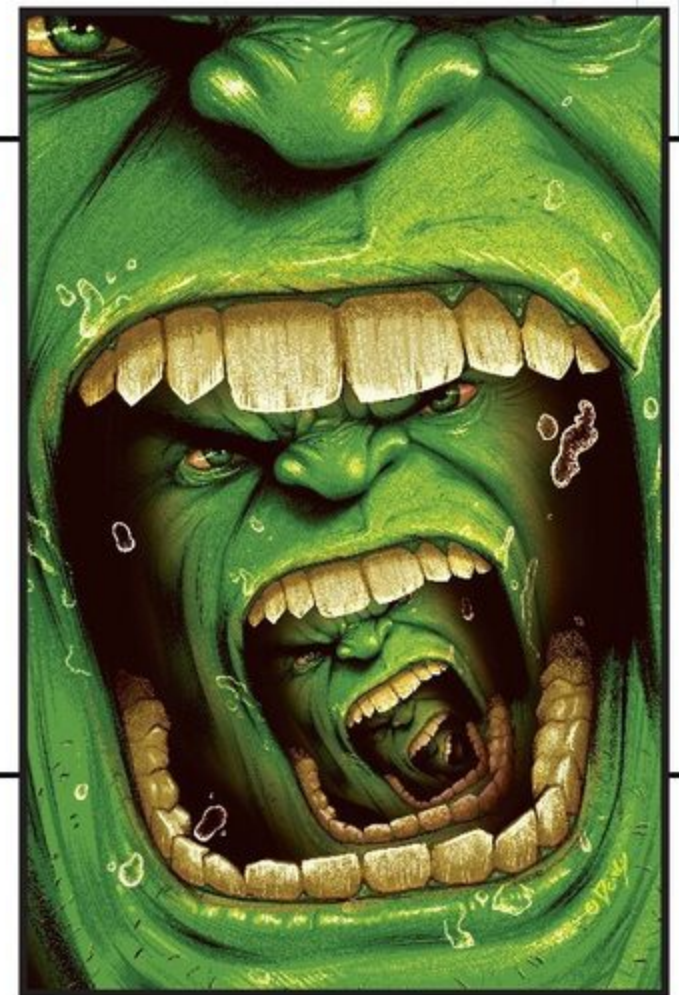
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #2 page 16, panel 2
art by PEPE LARRAZ



EDGE OF THE VARIANT-VERSE >>>>>>>>

We in the Spider-Office are no stranger to variants, we've got a Spider-Verse full of 'em. It's hard to narrow it down, but check out our favorite variant cover of the month.

INCREDIBLE HULK #24
Variant Cover by DOALY.

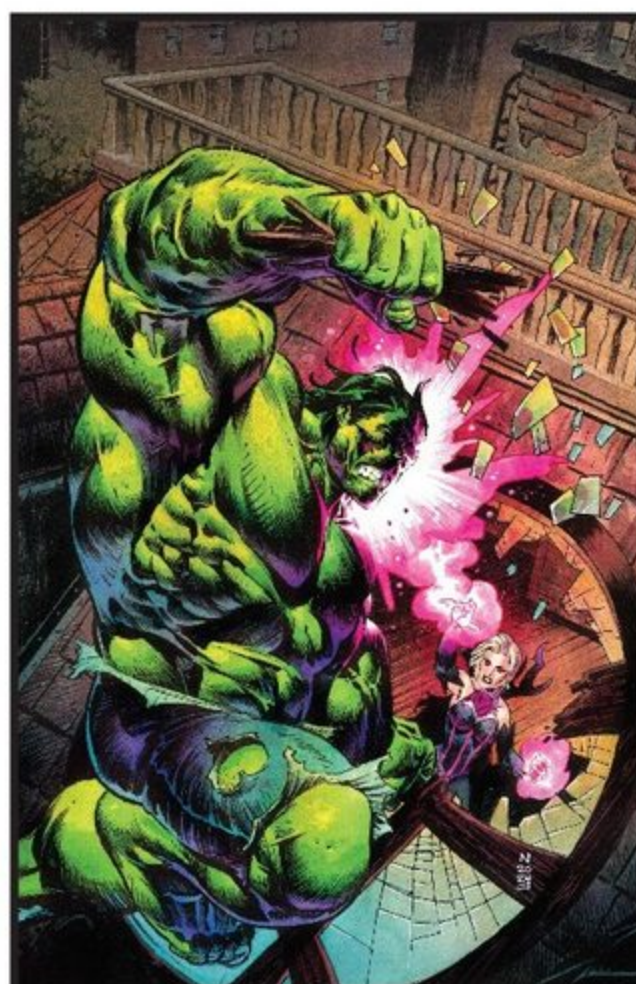


GAMMA CORNER

IS HE SPIDER, OR IS HE SYMBIOTE...OR IS HE NEITHER?

MAGIC AND MONSTERS!

This month, while in **INCREDIBLE HULK #24**, the Green Goliath takes on Clea Strange in the Sanctum Sanctorum, he takes on a much bigger foe in **HULK VS. GODZILLA #1**! That's right--on the one hand, Hulk takes on a Sorcerer Supreme, mistress of the mystic arts! On the other, Hulk takes on an even larger green giant known for smashing even more and bigger things than he does! It's really not Hulk's month!



INCREDIBLE HULK #24
On sale 4/9

CHECK OUT:

ASTONISHING SPIDER-MAN



This month on Marvel Unlimited, Spider-Man takes on another all-new villain--Mistress Splitsstress! And what she takes from him is something he's not sure he wants back!



NEXT:

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #2



ON SALE 4/23

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ELSEWHERE, ARIZONA...

THE
**MAGNETIC
PATTERNING** IS
ODD ENOUGH--I'M
SURE YOUR PHONE'S
BEEN GOING
WILD...

...BUT IT'S THE
MICROBURSTS OF
COSMIC RADIATION
THAT HAVE ME
FREAKED.

YOU'RE
SUGGESTING
THAT SOMETHING IN
THIS FORMATION CAN
AFFECT THE **MAGNETIC
SHIELDING** OF
THE EARTH?

I PROMISE
IT'S NOT HEAT
STROKE...

...BUT I
DON'T HAVE
A BETTER
EXPLANATION
YET.

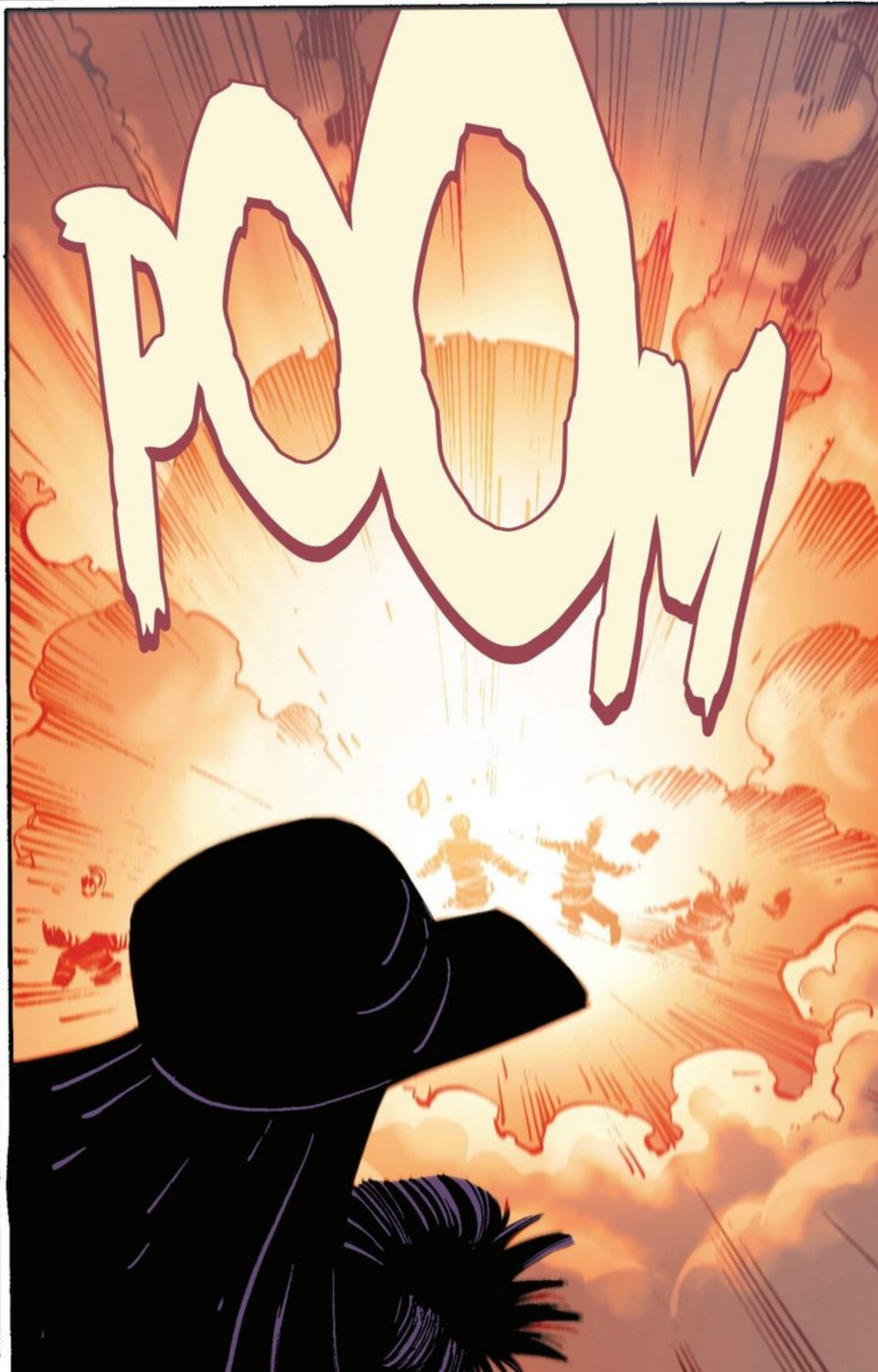
THE
HEARTBEAT
OF THE
TREE!

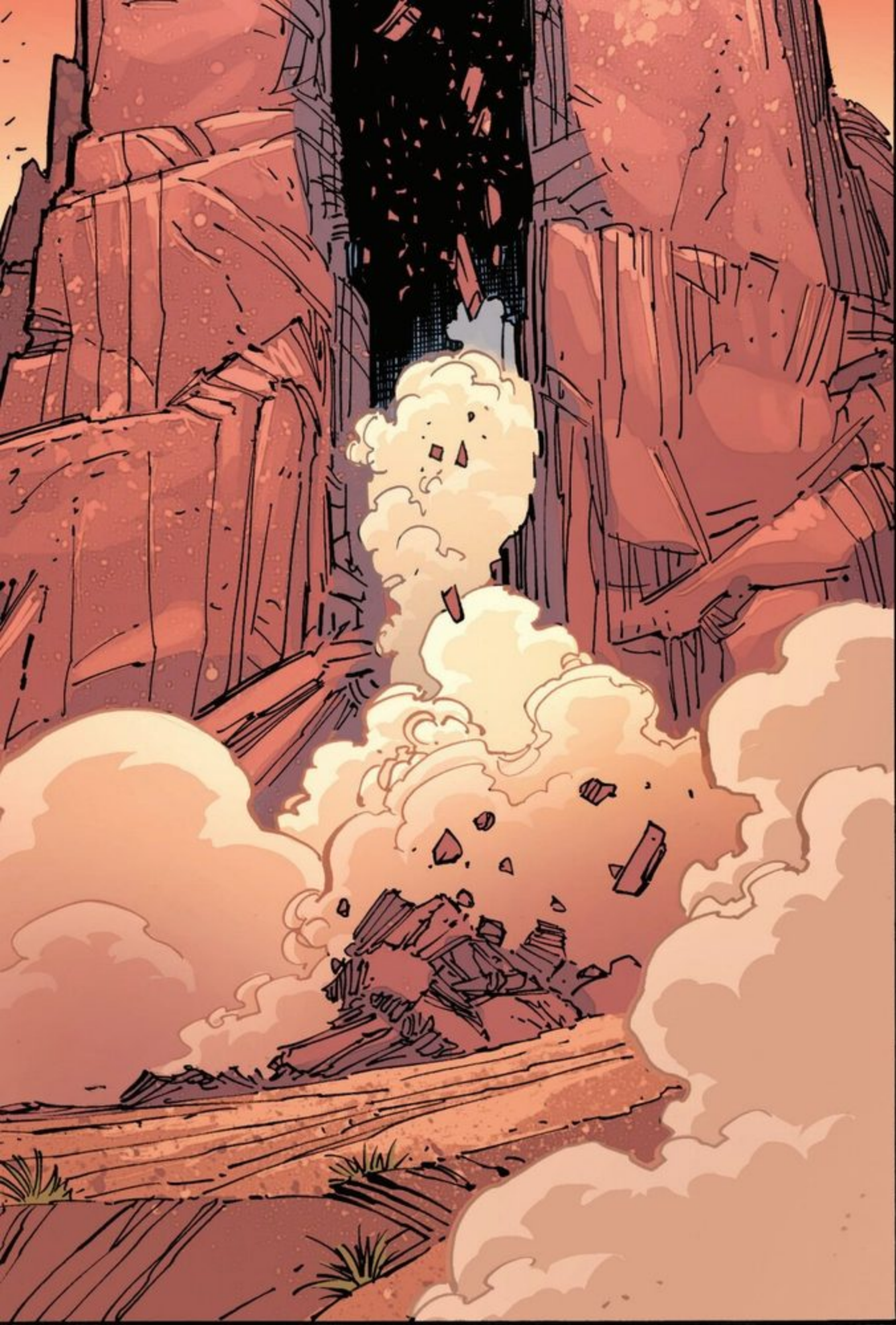
DAMN IT...
I'VE KNOWN
LESS DETERMINED
COCKROACHES...

HERMES, WE
TOLD YOU THIS
IS A PRIVATE
SITE--

**PUBLIC
LANDS AND
PUBLIC FUNDS**
PUT YOU HERE,
DOC...

...BUT IT'S THAT
**PRIVATE SCHOOL
HORSE PUCKY** THAT'S
MUCKING UP YOUR EARS.





"THE TREE...
THE HEARTBEAT..."

"THE
HELLGATE
IS OPEN."

**TO BE
CONTINUED.**